

Additional Admissions Information

Cardiovascular Technology (A.S.)

1. For new students, complete an online application to the College by the review deadline. For existing students, complete a Program Plan Change **if** Cardiovascular Technology is **not** your Active Program of study.
1. Submit all official non-FSCJ [transcripts](#) to the College when applying and prior to the review deadline date.
2. Complete the Prerequisite Courses.
3. Submit the signed **Core Performance Standards**, located at the end of this document.
4. Complete the following **after** acceptance into the professional phase of the program:
 - Ten-panel drug screening
 - Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check, including fingerprints
5. The following must be completed **after** the program orientation:
 - Medical physical
 - Immunization records and communicable disease screening

Application Addendums

Submit all supporting documents to the Health Sciences department at HCIC@fscj.edu by the review deadline, with the following information included in the email:

- Student's **program of study, term, and "Attachment"** in the subject line.
 - Include the student's **name** and student **ID** in the body of the message.
 - Documents **must** be emailed as attachments.
1. If applicable, submit a copy of your CPR/BLS certification from the **American Heart Association**.
 2. If you have at least six months healthcare-related work, submit proof of employment as follows:
 - Completed by a company representative
 - Printed on company letterhead
 - Specify dates of employment
 - Detailed healthcare-related duties performed
 - Indicate the number of hours worked per week
 3. If you have at least 8 hours of volunteer experience (does not have to be healthcare-related), submit proof as follows:
 - Completed by the volunteer organization
 - Printed on company letterhead
 - Included specific dates of volunteer service

- Indicated the number of hours volunteered

Competitive Review Process

Applicants must earn a grade of C or better in each prerequisite course and have a minimum GPA of 2.0. Completion of General Education coursework will allow applicants to achieve additional points.

Students are ready for review upon completion of all admission criteria. The ranking rubric is included below. Please note that the admission process is highly competitive.

Students will be notified through their FSCJ Student email of their admissions status 4-6 weeks following the review deadline. Information regarding a student's admissions status will not be provided over the telephone.

Cardiovascular Technology Ranking Rubric			Max Points
Minimum GPA 2.0			20
Overall GPA		Points	
2.0 - 2.49		1	
2.50 - 2.99		7	
3.0 – 3.49		13	
3.5 – 4.0		20	
A grade of C or better in all required CVT prerequisite courses			80
Course Grade		Points	
A		5	
B		3	
C		1	
Prerequisite Courses:			
Course Title	Course Code	Credit Hours	
Communications	ENC 1101, ENC 1101C, or ENC 1102	3	
Anatomy & Physiology I	BSC 2085C	4	
Mathematics	MAC 1105 or higher, MAP 2302, MGF 1130, or STA 2023	3	
Social and Behavioral Science Elective	AMH 2010, or AMH 2020, or POS 2041	3	

Humanities	ARH 2000, PHI 2010, MUL 2010, LIT 2000, HUM 2020, or THE 2000	3	
Bonus Points			
General Education & Professional Courses: <i>Not required prerequisites</i>			35
Course Title	Course Code	Credit Hours	
Medical Terminology	HSC 1531	3	
Natural Sciences	BCS 2086C	4	
Previous Degree		Points	10
Associate Degree		3	
Baccalaureate Degree		7	
Master's Degree or Higher		10	
CPR Certification for Health Care Providers			5
American Heart Association Only		Points	
CPR/BLS Provider Card		5	
Healthcare-Related Work Experience			8
Hours		Points	
< 6 Months		2	
6 - 12 Months		4	
12 - 24 Months		6	
> 24 Months		8	
Volunteer Experience		Points	2
(> 8 Hours)		2	
Total Possible Points			160

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND OCCUPATIONAL RISKS

Individuals who choose the Cardiovascular Technology profession require the capabilities outlined below regarding core performance standards:

Specialized Motor Skills and Mobility: Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and adequate performance of clinical procedures

- Demonstrate physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room.
- Manipulate equipment by pushing/pulling weights up to 300 lbs. and lifting a minimum of 40 lbs.
- Lift, move, and position patients.
- Hold and maneuver a transducer probe for extended periods.
- Walk long distances (up to approximately 3 miles per day).
- Stand for prolonged periods, sometimes wearing lead aprons weighing 10-15 lbs.
- Sitting for prolonged periods.
- Calibrate, use, and manipulate instrumentation, grasp, hold, grip, and turn with hands.

Sensory: Sufficient use of the senses of vision, hearing, touch, and smell to observe, assess, and evaluate close to and at a distance in the classroom and clinical setting

- Differentiate colors and shades of gray on the viewing monitor.
- Hear auditory signals from monitors, cameras, and beepers.
- Hear emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, and patients verbalizing their needs.
- Hear and differentiate sounds from Doppler ultrasounds.
- Perform visual assessments and observe patients' responses.

Critical Thinking: Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment, ability to acquire, assimilate, integrate, apply, and evaluate information and problem solve.

- Understand and interpret written and verbal orders.
- Respond promptly to emergencies.
- Concentrate and focus attention for long periods.
- Identify cause and effect relationships in clinical situations.
- Make accurate decisions independently.

Interpersonal: Interpersonal ability sufficient to communicate and interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of backgrounds, including social, emotional, cultural, economic, and intellectual.

- Established rapport with patients, clients, colleagues, and other healthcare personnel.

- Demonstrate patience, empathy, and concern for others.
- Display a calm manner in fearful or hostile situations.

Communication: Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.

- Communicate needs in a prompt, clear, and concise manner. Accurately document findings, both written and oral. Communicate information accurately and effectively to the physician.
- Evaluate written and verbal orders, patient care plans, and treatment requests.

Behavior: Sufficiency of motivation, responsibility, and flexibility to function in new, ever-changing, and stressful environments and adapt appropriately to diverse client needs.

- Maintain patient confidentiality.
- Show accountability for actions.
- Adapt to an assignment of patient, clinical site, or laboratory such that it meets objectives while providing safe, adequate patient care.

Occupational Risks in Cardiovascular Technology

Invasive Cardiology (Cath Lab)

Working in the cardiac catheterization lab can expose technologists to:

- **Radiation** – Even with protective equipment, repeated exposure over many years can cause long-term health risks.
- **Back, neck, and joint pain** – Wearing heavy lead aprons every day puts strain on the body.
- **Physical injuries** – Lifting, standing for long periods, and moving equipment can cause injuries.
- **Stress and fatigue** – Emergency situations and fast-paced procedures can be mentally and physically demanding.

Echocardiography (Sonography)

Sonographers are more likely to face **ergonomic injuries**, which come from repeating the same motions or holding the same position for too long. Common risks include:

- Shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand pain.
- Muscle strain from holding the transducer in one spot for long periods.
- Cumulative wear-and-tear on the body over a career.

What You'll Learn in the Program

As a student in the Cardiovascular Technology Program, you will learn:

- How to use proper body mechanics and posture.
- Ways to reduce radiation exposure.
- Techniques to scan more comfortably and safely.
- How to manage stress and protect your long-term health.

By learning these strategies early, you can take better care of yourself and enjoy a long, successful career in cardiovascular technology.

Core Performance Standards for Admission into the Cardiovascular Technology Program

I, _____, have read the “Core Performance Standards” for Admission into the Cardiovascular Technology Program and attest that I am physically and mentally capable of performing the required duties of a Cardiovascular Technologist.

Student's Signature

Date